

REMARKS

This paper is submitted in reply to the Office Action dated September 28, 2004, within the three-month period for response. Moreover, this paper is accompanied by a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) including authorization to charge Deposit Account 23-3000 the requisite fees, and as such, consideration of the foregoing amendments and the remarks hereinafter by the Examiner are respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejected claims 1-8, 12-21 and 25-30 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,987,621 to Duso et al. (Duso et al.). The Office Action also rejected dependent claims 9-11 and 22-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Duso et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,964,887 to Conseil (Conseil).

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections and objections, as the cited references do not disclose or suggest the invention as recited in any of claims 1-30. Applicants have nonetheless amended claims 1, 15 and 29 in deference to the Examiner.

As an initial matter, Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the consideration extended in the telephonic interview conducted between the Examiner and Applicants' representative on November 15, 2004. In the interview, proposed amendments to the claims were discussed. Based upon the proposed amendments, the Examiner indicated that such proposed Amendments would overcome the art of record. Accordingly, each independent claim has been amended to recite a shareable spare adaptor comprising hardware configured to couple to a computer resource.

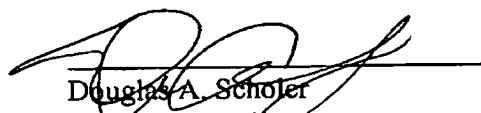
The amended hardware language is inherent to adaptors, and Applicants have included the language to clear up any perceived misunderstanding, i.e., not to limit the scope of the claims. Moreover, Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter is being added by the above amendments, as the amendments are fully supported in the specification, drawings and claims as originally filed.

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Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are novel and non-obvious over the prior art of record. Reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims are therefore respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions regarding the foregoing, or which might otherwise further this case onto allowance, the Examiner may contact the undersigned at (513) 241-2324. Moreover, if any other charges or credits are necessary to complete this communication, please apply them to Deposit Account 23-3000.

Respectfully submitted,

12/17/04
Date


Douglas A. Scholer
Reg. No. 52, 197
WOOD, HERRON & EVANS, L.L.P.
2700 Carew Tower
441 Vine Street
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202
Telephone: (513) 241-2324
Facsimile: (513) 241-6234

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